

# News Release



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## **U.S. Labor Department Partnering with Utah State Agencies** *Effort Promotes Voluntary Compliance with Federal & State Labor Laws*

**SALT LAKE CITY** – The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD), along with the Utah Labor Commission and the Utah Department of Workforce Services (DWS), are entering the second year of a partnership designed to provide Utah employers information about federal and state labor laws.

"The continuation of this agreement provides an opportunity to maximize resources and provide information assistance to Utah businesses about labor laws and compliance assistance available to them," said Dean Campbell, Wage and Hour district director in Salt Lake City. "We are pleased to work with our state partners again to ensure Utah employers have accurate and updated information to voluntarily comply with labor laws."

The partnership agreement, originated by Shelly Burleson, program administrator of business services, DWS's Workforce Development and Information Division, provides all agencies the opportunity to work together and pool resources to inform employers about labor laws and the resources available to assist them.

During its first year, DWS coordinated and hosted 12 educational forums on state and federal labor laws at DWS Employment Centers throughout Utah. "We received such favorable reports that we decided to embark on a second year," said Kim Auberger, director of business services, DWS's Workforce Development and Information Division.

"It's important for Utah employers to understand the differences between state and federal labor laws and this is a perfect opportunity to ask questions directly to federal and state government representatives at the same time," said Sherrie Hayashi, director of the Utah Labor Commission's Anti-Discrimination & Labor Division. "The information available at these forums will help employers prevent inadvertent violation of the law."

For information on compliance assistance or federal labor laws, such as the Fair Labor Standards Act or the Family and Medical Leave Act, call the Wage and Hour Salt Lake City District Office at (801) 534-5706 or the Department of Labor's toll free help line at 1-866-4USWAGE (1-866-487-9243). Information is also available on the Internet at [www.wagehour.dol.gov](http://www.wagehour.dol.gov).

For more state information on compliance assistance or labor laws, such as wage collection and discrimination statutes, call the Utah Labor Commission at (801) 530-6801. Information is also available on the Internet at [www.laborcommission.utah.gov](http://www.laborcommission.utah.gov)

For information on upcoming dates and locations of the 2005 Labor Law Training Forums scheduled throughout Utah, visit the DWS Internet site at [www.jobs.utah.gov](http://www.jobs.utah.gov) and search for Employer Seminars, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Employer 101 – Labor Law Basic Training.

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